

## PAPERS READ.

ON THE CORRECT HABITAT OF *PATELLA KERMADECENSIS*, PILSBRY.

BY JOHN BRAZIER, F.L.S., C.M.Z.S.

At the Meeting of this Society held on April 25th last, I read a short communication on a certain large *Patella* said to be from the Kermadec Islands, which from the presence of two adherent specimens of a second *Patella* (unfortunately in a very bad state of preservation, but allied to if not identical with the South African *P. cochlear*, Born), I was led to believe to be the *P. kermadecensis* of Pilsbry said to be from the same locality.

At the June Meeting Mr. Hedley stated that he had been informed by a New Zealand collector that *P. kermadecensis* had been found at Raoul or Sunday Island, by Captain Fairchild's party.

In reply to that statement I again upheld my conviction at the following Meeting for the reason above stated. Since then I have been able to see Mr. Percy Smith's pamphlet "The Kermadec Islands; their capabilities and extent" (Wellington, 1887), on pp. 26 and 27 of which will be found a description of Macauley Island, one of the Kermadec Group, with the following reference: "The quantity of fish and crabs in the rocky pools on the shore and the number of large limpets (as big as small saucers, and good eating) would serve as food for a length of time to any cast-away here."

I have, therefore, arrived at the conclusion that the shell referred to in the foregoing extract is none other than the species under consideration for the following reasons:—

1. It is unlikely that a gigantic *Patella* such as this would have been overlooked by such collectors as Mr. John Macgillivray and other residents on Raoul or Sunday Island for many years.

2. That we have no authentic record of its occurrence on that island.

3. That the only shell which answers to the description from these seas is that referred to by Mr. S. Percy Smith from Macauley Island.